

Draft

Personnel Staffing Transition Plan Summary

Hurricane Harvey ESF-10 Response

September 12, 2017

As hazard evaluations are coming to a conclusion, Unified Command (UC) has assessed the remaining workload of ESF-10 assignments remaining, timeframes to complete them, and personnel resources required to do so. As a result, UC is recommending initiation of an organized, thoughtful, and gradual reduction in personnel in the field to facilitate a smooth transition back to normal operations with state and local authorities.

Assumptions

1. No ESF-8 mission assignment (private drinking water well sampling)
2. No ESF-10 HHW/white goods/e-goods mission assignments
3. No significant assistance required to debris management activities
4. No other significant mission assignments

Current Workload and EPA Personnel Needs Forecast

Corpus Christi Branch:

- DW/WW assessments are completed
- Reconnaissance and Hazard Evaluations of all areas is 100% complete in all 13 counties. Some quality assurance checks are occurring.
- Recovery of containers and characterization is 95% complete
- TCEQ will be able to handle remaining hazard evaluations, container recoveries, and responses to discharges/releases from facilities after September 16, 2107
- The EPA Incident Management Team will remain through the end of all ESF-10 activities
- As of September 11, 2017 EPA personnel needs are projected to include:
 - 10-12 EPA staff for IMT
 - 1 OSC Branch Director
 - 1 OSC for Recovery Teams
 - 1 technical specialist teams for landfill/staging area monitoring through November 1, 2017
 - No Community Liaison work in this branch

Houston Branch:

- ASPECT missions are 100% complete and ASPECT will demobilize on September 12, 2017
- DW/WW assessments are projected to be completed by September 14, 2017
- Reconnaissance and Hazard Evaluations are 100% complete in 16 of 16 counties in this area
- Recovery of containers and characterization is 15% complete
- ESF-10 field operations (except disposal) are projected to be completed by October 10, 2017
- As of September 11, 2017 EPA personnel needs are projected to include
 - 1 OSC Branch Director,
 - 1 OSC Deputy Branch Director,
 - 1 Public Information Officer,
 - 1 Planning Section Chief, and
 - 4 OSCs for Recovery Teams through October 10, 2017



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- 3 technical specialist teams for landfill/staging area monitoring through November 15, 2017
- 30 Community Liaison personnel through September 23, 2017

Current forecast for Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch:

- DW/WW assessments are projected to be completed by September 14, 2017
- Reconnaissance and Hazard Evaluations are 70% complete in the 9 counties in this area of responsibility; additional assessment is somewhat dependent on floodwaters receding
- To date, there are relatively few containers requiring recovery in Port Arthur/Beaumont
- Operations in this branch are expected to increase as recovery operations commence over the period September 11-18, 2017 with a gradual decrease through September 30, 2017
- ESF-10 field operations (except disposal) are projected to be completed by September 30, 2017
- As of September 11, 2017 EPA personnel needs are projected to include:
 - 1 OSC Branch Director
 - 3 OSCs for Recovery Teams
 - 2 technical specialist teams for landfill/staging area monitoring through November 15, 2017
 - 30 Community Liaison personnel (split with Houston personnel) through September 23, 2017

Summary

Organizationally, the EPA ESF-10 Hurricane Harvey response is aligned with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regions. Three branches were established: Corpus Christi, Houston, and Port Arthur/Beaumont. This will facilitate TCEQ's ability to handle remaining situations.

The TCEQ regional offices will review any remaining items left in their geographic area and will work with respective counties on closure of ESF-10 activities. UC is developing a plan, "***Operational Activity Transition Record for Orphan Drum and Container Collection, and Spills/Discharges from Facilities in xxx Branch***", which will formally document, work completed, operational status, and remaining work to be done in a given Branch. Once UC agree that federal ESF-10 support is no longer needed in a given Branch, the Incident Commanders for each respective agency will sign off on the plan.

EPA/TCEQ will have their own "transition record" plan for orphan containers; the USCG/TGLO will have a separate plan for vessels. This is due to the fact that there are two different Mission Assignments, with a corresponding different set of mission objectives for EPA/TCEQ and USCG/TGLO.